

REMARKS

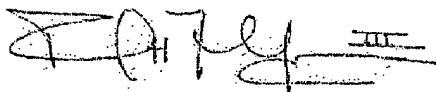
The Applicant filed a Request for Voluntary publication under 37 CFR § 1.221 with its last amendment. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to review the status of the Request for Voluntary Publication and contact the undersigned attorney if there are any issues with the Request that would cause the application to not yet be published.

The current Final Office Action rejects claims 41 and 42 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Glover '217 in view and Battersby '771, Town, and optionally any one of Reichert, Woodard, or Lizardo. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections but has cancelled claims 41 and 42 and has added new claims 43-45 for examination. Claim 43 recited similar limitations to claims 41 but additionally requires the moisture impermeable primary sealant material to be heated so that it wets out against the glass to hermetically seal the insulating chamber. The Applicant submits claim 43 and its dependent claims are patentable over the cited references.

As explained in the Applicant's previous responses, the Applicant respectfully submits the main reference, Glover '217, teaches away from the claimed method. Glover does not disclose the claimed method because Glover only uses notches to hold the pre-applied, cold sealant that does not wet out against the glass until the Glover device is passed through heated roller press. Glover teaches away from using such notches when applying sealant behind the spacer. The Applicant thus submits one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not have been led to make the combination presented in the action because Glover teaches away from the use of notches when applying sealant to a channel disposed outwardly of the spacer. The embodiment of Fig. 2A of Glover '217 discloses a spacer frame configuration having the sealant (44) filling in the notches (Col. 8, line 67) before the spacer is sandwiched between the glass sheets. This glazing unit is then passed through a heated roller press to wet out the sealant (44). This application of the sealant (44) in the Fig. 2A embodiment of Glover '217 is opposite to the method recited in the claims wherein the heated primary sealant is applied to the notches after the spacer frame is secured to the glass sheets so that the sealant wets out against the glass to hermetically seal the insulating chamber.

In view of the forgoing, the Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the new claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance for the claims. Please call the undersigned attorney if there are any issues or questions with this submission.

Respectfully submitted,



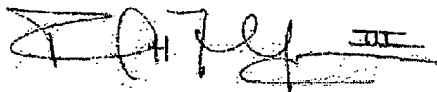
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